



Public Health
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Spotted Lanternfly- Join the Battle, Beat the Bug

What is the Spotted Lanternfly?- Spotted Lanternfly (SLF), *Lycorma delicatula*, is an invasive plant hopper native to China, India, and Vietnam. It was first discovered in the U.S. in Pennsylvania in Berks County in 2014 and has spread to other counties in PA, as well as the states of New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, New York, Connecticut and Ohio.

Why You Should Care- SLF is a serious invasive pest with a healthy appetite for our plants and it can be a significant nuisance, affecting the quality of life and enjoyment of the outdoors. The spotted lanternfly uses its piercing-sucking mouthpart to feed on sap from over 70 different plant species. It has a strong preference for economically important plants and the feeding damage significantly stresses the plants which can lead to decreased health and potentially death.



What do I do if I see a SLF?- If you see a Spotted Lanternfly, you must kill it immediately. Once you have killed it, you must report it to the New Jersey Department of Agriculture. The link can be found on the NJDEP website and below:

<https://www.nj.gov/agriculture/divisions/pi/prog/pests-diseases/spotted-lanternfly/#reporting-tool>

******Please do not panic, Spotted Lanternfly will NOT sting or bite humans or animals******

What else can I do to help? - Survey your own property and community for possible SLF life stages. Any efforts you make in destroying the Spotted Lanternfly or its egg masses will help you and community reduce populations. Familiarize yourself with the life stages of the insect and when in the season to look for them.



Questions? Call the Jefferson Township Health Department at 973-208-6121 or email sleonard@jeffersontownship.net